

Message Text

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15

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 FEA-01 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02

STR-04 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 ERDA-05

DODE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INT-05 L-03 NSC-05 PM-04 USIA-06

OES-03 SS-15 /107 W

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FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 318

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 1552

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EEC, ENRG, EGEN

SUBJECT: CIEC: EC PREPARATIONS

REF EC BRUSSELS 189

1. SUMMARY: THE EC COMMITTEE OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES (COREPER) MET ON JANUARY 15 TO DECIDE ON MODALITIES FOR THE EC'S PARTICIPATION IN THE CIEC. AN EFFORT WAS MADE TO ESTABLISH PROCEDURES WHICH WOULD ENSURE IN PRACTICE AS WELL AS THEORY THAT THE PRIMARY COORDINATION POINT FOR THE COMMUNITY WOULD BE COREPER IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BRUSSELS. NO FINAL DECISION WAS TAKEN ON THE QUESTION OF THE EC

CO-CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSIONS.
COREPER WILL MEET AGAIN JANUARY 19. END SUMMARY.

2. COREPER MEETING JANUARY 15 WAS LARGELY DEVOTED TO SEEKING TO ESTABLISH COMMUNITY PROCEDURES FOR THE CIEC EXERCISE WHICH WOULD INSURE THAT THE PRIMARY POINT OF COMMUNITY COORDINATION WOULD BE THE EC PERREPS IN BRUSSELS. OVER OBJECTIONS BY THE UK AND THE DUTCH, IT WAS DECIDED THAT AT COORDINATION MEETINGS OF THE CIEC EIGHT INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES, THE COMMUNITY WOULD BE REPRESENTED BY THE PRESIDENCY AND THE COMMISSION, WITHOUT INDIVIDUAL MEMBER STATE REPRESENTATION. THE PRESIDENCY (LUXEMBOURG) HAS UNDERTAKEN TO BRIEF THE OECD AMBASSADORS OF THE NINE FOLLOWING THESE MEETINGS WHO WILL THEN BE IN A POSITION TO REPORT TO THEIR PERMREPS IN BRUSSELS.

3. NO DECISION WAS MADE ON THE QUESTION OF HOW THE COMMUNITY WOULD BE REPRESENTED IN ITS ROLE AS CO-CHAIRMAN OF THE DEVELOPMENT AND FINANCE COMMISSIONS. THE BRITISH, AND ITALIANS CONTINUE TO HOLD THAT, FOR REASONS OF COMMUNITY PRINCIPLE, THE COMMUNITY SHOULD BE REPRESENTED BY THE PRESIDENCY ASSISTED BY THE COMMISSION. THE OTHER SEVEN ARE PREPARED TO GO ALONG WITH WHAT HAS BECOME KNOWN AS THE WELLENSTEIN FORMULA WHEREBY THE CO-CHAIRMANSHIPS WOULD BE SPLIT WITH THE COMMISSION (WELLENSTEIN) TAKING ONE AND THE PRESIDENCY THE OTHER. THIS MATTER WILL BE DISCUSSED AGAIN AT A COREPER MEETING SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 19. NOTWITHSTANDING THE LACK OF AGREEMENT ON THIS POINT, COREPER DISCUSSED HOW THE CO-CHAIRMANSHIPS WOULD BE DIVIDED ON THE HYPOTHESIS THAT THE WELLENSTEIN FORMULA WAS ADOPTED. FRANCE, BELGIUM, LUXEMBOURG, HOLLAND AND THE UK PREFER THAT THE FINANCE COMMITTEE GO TO THE LUXEMBOURG PRESIDENCY. THE OTHERS SUPPORTED THE REVERSE. WE ARE INFORMED THAT WELLENSTEIN WOULD PREFER TO CHAIR THE FINANCE COMMISSION BUT WOULD TAKE EITHER. IN FACT, HE TOLD THE AMBASSADOR THAT HE EXPECTED TO HAVE THE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION.

4. COREPER GENERALLY AGREED THAT THE COMMISSIONS SHOULD MEET FOR NO MORE THAN A WEEK AT A TIME WITH A GAP OF ABOUT FOUR WEEKS BETWEEN MEETINGS. CASPARI, THE EC COMMISSION COORDINATOR FOR CIEC MATTERS, SAYS THAT IN PRACTICE THERE WILL PROBABLY BE MORE THAN A FOUR WEEK HIATUS SINCE, BECAUSE OF THE CURRENT SCHEDULE FOR UNCTAD MEETINGS, THE SESSION AFTER FEB.

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11 WILL PROBABLY NOT TAKE PLACE UNTIL THE END OF MARCH AND THE FOLLOWING ONE WILL PROBABLY TAKE PLACE IN MAY.

5. ACCORDING TO CASPARI, COREPER ALSO AGREED THAT AS REGARDS INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES, THE OECD SHOULD ONLY BE USED AS A PLACE WHERE PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES COMPARED NOTES AND BRIEFED NON-PARTICIPANTS. IT WAS THOUGHT THAT ATTEMPTING TO DEFINE UNIFIED POSITIONS IN THE OECD WAS NOT ONLY IMPRACTICAL BUT UN-

DESIRABLE.

6. CASPARI SAID THERE WAS DISCUSSION OF THE TIMING OF A MEETING OF THE GROUP OF EIGHT PRIOR TO THE MEETING ON JANUARY 26. IT WAS NOTED THAT THE US WAS PREPARED TO MEET ON JANUARY 25 AND THAT CANADA HAD CHANGED ITS PROPOSAL FROM JANUARY 23 TO THE 24TH. THE COMMUNITY WOULD BE WILLING TO ACCEPT JANUARY 24 IF THE US AGREES TO THAT DATE.GREENWALD

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